

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

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LONDON FOR ASST SECY SCHAUFEL

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TAGS: PFOR, PINT, WA, SF, CU, UR

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA - AS AUGUST 31 APPROACHES SWAPO RHETORIC
HEATS UP

REF: LUSAKA 1962 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: AUGUST 23 DAILY MAIL CARRIED FRONT PAGE ACCOUNT
OF AUGUST 22 EXCHANGE WITH SWAPO PRESIDENT SAM NUJOMA ABOUT
DEVELOPMENTS IN NAMIBIA. NUJOMA BILLED TURNHALLE CONFERENCE
AS "MOCKERY OF DEMOCRACY", VOWED TO CRUSH ANY "PUPPET" REGIME
INSTALLED IN NAMIBIA BY VORSTER, SAID SWAPO WOULD TALK WITH
SAG ONLY OUTSIDE NAMIBIA AND ONLY ABOUT BASIS OF WITHDRAWAL

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OF SOUTH AFRICAN ADMINISTRATION. NUJOMA LINKS HIS RECENT

TRIP TO MOSCOW WITH PLANS TO ESCALATE FREEDOM FLIGHTERS' WAR. NOTING NAMIBIA NOT PLANNING TO FOLLOW ANGOLAN EXAMPLE IN USING FORCES FROM OUTSIDE, NUJOMA SAID. SINCE ARMS NOT AVAILABLE FROM WESTERN COUNTRIES HE HOPED FOR MATERIAL ASSISTANCE FROM USSR AND CUBA. MILITARY TRIBUNAL HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED TO TRY SWAPO DISSIDENTS, AND, IF FOUND GUILTY, THEY WOULD

FACE FIRING SQUAD. END SUMMARY.

1. SAM NUJOMA IN BELLICOSE AUGUST 22 INTERVIEW REPORTED IN AUGUST 23 ZAMBIAN DAILY MAIL SAID ANY BLACK "PUPPET" GOVERNMENT SET UP IN NAMIBIA WITHOUT SWAPO'S BLESSING WOULD BE CRUSHED. PRESS ACCOUNT NOTES THAT NUJOMA'S REMARKS PROCEED VISIT TO ZAMBIA BY UNDERSECRETARY ROGERS AND ASST. SECY. SCHAUFELLE, WHO RESUMING US EFFORTS DEFUSE SOUTHERN AFRICA TENSIONS, AND WILL HAVE TALKS COVERING NAMIBIA. NUJOMA DENIED SOUTH AFRICA'S RIGHT, TO ANNOUNCE 1978 INDEPENDENCE DATE FOR NAMIBIA SINCE IT ILLEGALLY OCCUPYS THAT TERRITORY. SWAPO IS TO INTENSIFY ARMED STRUGGLE AND WILL CONTINUE STRUGGLES UNTIL GENUINE FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE ACHIEVED. NUJOMA DISMISSED AS POINTLESS SUGGESTIONS THAT SWAPO MEET WITH TURNHALLE DELEGATES OUTSIDE NAMIBIA. WHILE UNWILLING TO TALK WITH PUPPET CHIEFS ANYWHERE, NUJOMA REITERATED STANDARD SWAPO LINE THAT IT WOULD MEET WITH SAG ANYWHERE EXCEPT

NAMIBIA, BUT ONLY FOR DISCUSSION ON WITHDRAWAL OF SAG ADMINISTRATION.

2. NUJOMA SAID HIS RECENT TRIP TO MOSCOW WAS CONNECTED WITH SWAPO PLANS TO ESCALATE FREEDOM FIGHTERS WAR IN NAMIBIA. THOUGH SWAPO NOT PLANNING TO FOLLOW ANGOLAN EXAMPLE IN USING OUTSIDE FORCES IN STRUGGLE, SINCE SWAPO HAS FORCES SUFFICIENT TO PREVAIL, MATERIAL ASSISTANCE IS NEEDED. ARMS AND AMMUNITION, NOT AVAILABLE FROM WESTERN COUNTRIES, WHICH ARE FRIENDS OF SA, WILL BE SOUGHT FROM FRIENDS, INCLUDING SOVIET UNION, PREPARED TO ASSIST. ALTHOUGH UNWILLING TO SPECIFY WHAT ASSISTANCE HE SOUGHT IN MOSCOW, NUJOMA SAID HE SATISFIED WITH HIS VISIT. NUJOMA SAID CUBANS CERTAINLY ARE OUR FRIENDS AND WE EXPECT THEM TO GIVE ASSISTANCE.

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3. NUJOMA SAID A MILITARY TRIBUNAL HAD BEEN SET UP TO TRY SWAPO DISSIDENTS, AGENTS OF WEST GERMANY COLLABORATING WITH SOUTH AFRICAN SECRET POLICE, WHO HAD ACCUSED HIS LEADERSHIP OF INCOMPETENCE, TRIBALISM AND CORRUPTION. SOME 40 DISSIDENTS ARE IN PROTECTIVE CUSTODY IN ZAMBIA AND ALL OTHER HAVE BEEN TRANSFERRED TO TANZANIA. IF FOUND GUILTY, DISSIDENTS WOULD

FACE FIRING SQUAD.

4. ACCOUNT CLOSES WITH REFERENCE TO WIDESPREAD SPECULATION THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER HAS BEEN PRESSING SOUTH AFRICA TO EXPAND WINDHOEK TALKS TO INCLUDE SWAPO TURNING THEM INTO CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN LUSAKA OR GENEVA. CLINGERMAN

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